AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification as follows

Insert the following new paragraph on Page 1, after the title:

The present application is a 371 U.S. national phase of PCT/GB99/00838, filed 18, March 1999, which designated the U.S.

Page 14, delete the paragraph spanning lines 7-8 and insert the following therefor:

~~Figure 5~~ **Figures 5A and 5B** In situ hybridisation in rat DRG tissue using an SNS, a specific probe. Figure 5A~~5a)~~ shows a sense probe and Figure 5B ~~5b)~~ shows an anti-sense probe.

Page 14, delete the paragraph spanning lines 16-20 and insert the following therefor:

~~Figure 9: shows~~ Figures 9A-J show photomicrographs of SNS_{2a}, and SNS/PN3 staining for mRNA and protein. Figures D, E, F confirm SNS_{2a} labelling is found exclusively in small neurons (10- 25µm diameter). Double labelling for SNS_{2a}, and SNS/PN3 mRNA and protein (Figures G, H, I, J) shows colocalisation in small neurons (arrows): larger neurons can be seen positive for SNS/PN3 but negative for SNS_{2a} (arrowheads).

Page 15, delete the paragraph spanning lines 1-6 and insert the following therefor:

~~**Figure 11**: shows~~**Figures 11A-C** show biophysical and pharmacological properties of recombinant rat SNS_{2a} Na^+ channels expressed in HEK293T cells. Representative current records are shown along with their peak current-voltage relationships (A, B). Capacitance transients have been blanked for clarity. Panel ~~Pannel~~ C illustrates the effect of TTX on SNS_{2a}. It is resistant to sub μM concentrations of TTX compared with the nM sensitivity of TTX sensitive sodium channels.